



# ICPD Symposium on Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

*Dedicated to the Memory of Professor Konstantin Danielyan*

September 23-24, 2022

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**VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM** ԱՈՐԱՆՅ ՄՈՒԳՈՐԾԻՈՒՄ

**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS** ԵՐԵԽԱՆԵՐԻ ԵՎ ԴԵՌԱՀԱՍՆԵՐԻ ՀՈՂԵԿԱՆ ԱՈՒՂՂՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԵՎ ԶԱՐԳԱՅՄԱՆ ԽԱՆԳԱՐՈՒՄՆԵՐ

**DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF PROFESSOR KONSTANTIN DANIELYAN** ԵՎԻՐԿԱԾ ԳՐԹՐՈՒՆԿՈՒՄ ԿՈՆՏԱՆԻՆԻ ԴԱՆԵԼՅԱՆԻ ՀԻՇԱՏԱԿԻՆ

**SEPTEMBER 23-24 / 2022** **ՍԵՊՏԵՄԲԵՐ 23-24 / 2022**

AT 7:00 - 11:00 (PST) | 16:00 - 20:00 (CET) ԺԱՄԸ 18:00 - 22:00

SYMPOSIUM IN ENGLISH WITH ARMENIAN SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION  
ARMENIAN CME CREDITS PROVIDED

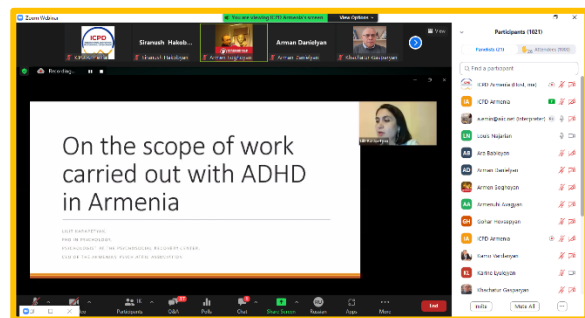
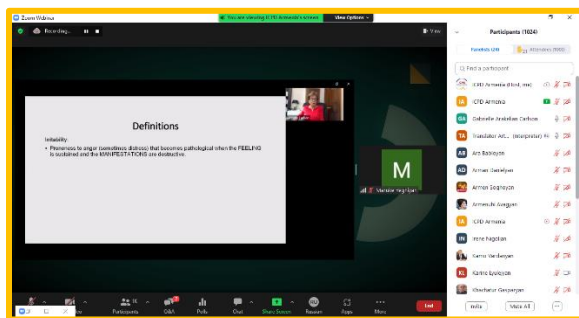
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**CO-CHAIRS** ՀԱՍՏԱՆԱԳԱՎՈՐՆԵՐ

**DR. ARMAN DANIELYAN** **DR. ARMEN SOGHOYAN**  
MD, FAPA, DFAACAP, USA MD, PHD, ARMENIA  
ԱՐԱՆ ԴԱՆԵԼՅԱՆ ԱՐՄԵՆ ՍՈՂՈՅԱՆ  
FAPA, DFAACAP, ԱՄՆ Բ.Գ.Ք. ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆ



*The International Center for Professional Development (ICPD) honors those who have made substantial contributions to advancement of healthcare and medical education in Armenia. In that Spirit, the Symposium on Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Neurodevelopmental Disorders was dedicated to Professor Konstantin Danielyan. He chaired the Department of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Medical Psychology of the National Institute of Health of Armenia since 1985 and contributed to the development of the field in the nation.*





*This symposium was intended for psychiatrists, psychologists, rehabilitation specialists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists, juvenile justice workers, pediatricians, developmental pediatricians, family doctors, nurses, social workers, counselors and educators. The two-day symposium brought **20 experts** together virtually from the United States, Canada, Armenia and Switzerland to share their knowledge and experience on child and adolescent mental health and neurodevelopmental disorders. **Approximately 2,200 health care professionals registered** for this symposium, overwhelming the technical capacity which allowed **1,000 attendees**.*

*Globally, many organizations have issued urgent warnings about a mental health crisis among children and adolescents. In the United States, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Hospital Association and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry have declared it as a "national emergency." Although the rates of mental health problems in the youth have been rising steadily over the past decade, the stress associated with the coronavirus pandemic has further aggravated the situation. Suicide is one of the leading causes of death in people between the ages of 10 and 24. Compared to 2019, the percentage of emergency department visits for mental health emergencies in the USA has risen by 24% for children between the ages of 5 and 11, and by 31% for those 12 to 17. One in seven 10-19-year-olds in the world experiences a mental disorder, accounting for 13% of the global burden of disease in this age group. Prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorders has also been increasing worldwide, partly due to improved early screening and diagnostic methods. In Armenia, the concern is further inflamed by the Azeri war of aggression in 2020, followed by almost daily acts of violence, including invading the borders of sovereign Armenia, and other psychologic means such as torture, mutilation, dismemberment and brutalization of Armenian POWs on live internet feeds, to instill fear in the population. The effects of these campaigns of aggression and fear have a significant impact on the emotional wellbeing of the youth and their families. One of the main goals of the symposium was to share the experience and expertise of our colleagues in this field. The knowledge gained during this symposium will help us to provide a more comprehensive care for the youth coping with mental health disorder and/or the effects of national trauma in Armenia.*

*The symposium was co-chaired by **Dr. Arman Danielyan** MD, FAPA, DFAACAP from the **United States** and **Dr. Armen Soghoyan**, MD, PhD from **Armenia**. Dr. Danielyan is board certified in Psychiatry and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Dr. Soghoyan is a psychiatrist and the current president of the Armenian Psychiatric Association.*

***Dr. Danielyan noted** "I was pleasantly surprised by such tremendous interest in the field of pediatric mental health and neurodevelopmental disorders. We had unexpectedly high number of participants, which emphasized how widespread the problems affecting mental health in youth are. It is very promising to see that professionals, e.g. pediatricians, psychiatrist, psychologist, social workers, educators and others appear to be interested in learning more*



*about how to identify and treat various psychiatric conditions, including depression, anxiety, autism spectrum disorders and others in youth. Our conference also helped to have more open discussion about topics not so widely explored or talked about in the past, including gender identity disorders in youth. We hope this will be the first in a series of professional meetings in the field of child and adolescent mental health and Neurodevelopmental disorders that will help to share experience and to improve collaboration between professionals in Armenia and elsewhere with the goal to improve mental/emotional well-being of youth and their families”.*

***Dr. Sogoyan** said “Thank you for initiating and organizing the symposium. It was truly unprecedented for child and adolescent mental health in its geographical scope, programme and number of participants. We were also able to honor the memory of Professor Danielyan, one of the iconic figures behind psychiatry in Armenia”.*

*Keynote speakers, **Dr. Antonio Y. Hardan**, MD, professor at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford University, led with presentations on **the Psychopharmacology of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD): Clinical and Research Update**, and **Dr. Gabrielle A. Carlson**, MD, professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics and Director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at State University of New York at Stony Brook, discussed **Irritability and Mood Disorders in Children and Adolescents**. The symposium was structured to cover relevant topics by specialists from different fields, fostering engagement and interesting questions and discussion amongst the presenters and the participants.*

*The event was very well received by both participants and speakers. Comments from the attendees included “The best experts in the field were invited,” and “The comprehensive breakdown of the various issues and interesting discussions were very enlightening, thank you...”*

*Approximately 600 attendees took part in the post-symposium evaluation. For 99.8 percent of the participants the symposium was useful or very useful. They stated that the best part of the symposium was that “we were able to take part in this wonderful program and learn more,” “Getting useful information from home,” “very useful for professional development,” “Providing accessible professional information remotely,” and “A discussion held remotely allows a larger number of interested parties to participate”.*



The ICPD is grateful to the following organizations for sponsoring the symposium:

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**The Scientific Partner**

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[The International Center for Professional Development \(ICPD\)](#) was formed with the vision of making Armenia a regional hub in healthcare science and technology. The goal of the organization is to provide resources to continuously improve knowledge and experience in the field of healthcare for practitioners, health science professionals and biomedical technology experts. The Center relies on live conferences, online modules, workshops and simulations to offer the latest advances in healthcare to specialists, not only in Armenia and Artsakh, but also to regional countries and beyond.